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C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 001036

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/20/2013

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [IZ](#) [GT](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON FLEEING IRAQI OFFICIALS

REF: A. STATE 98747

[B](#). STATE 95180

[C](#). GUATEMALA 995

Classified By: Ambassador John Hamilton for reasons 1.5 (b) and (d).

(C) In the absence of Foreign Minister Gutierrez, Embassy raised ref A points with Giovanni Castillo, Director General for Multilateral Affairs on April 21. Castillo assured us that the GOG would immediately inform the Embassy of any cases of former Iraqi regime officials attempting to enter Guatemalan territory. Castillo added that in the wake of our previous demarche on this subject (refs B and C), he had been in consultations with the Ministry's Legal Department regarding procedures for potential asylum claims by Iraqi officials. The GOG would look to the Embassy for information, coordination, and support, he said, in any such claims. Castillo said he doubted any Iraqi officials would attempt to take refuge in Guatemala but repeated his assurances that we would be immediately consulted if the GOG detects possible Iraqi officials in Guatemala.
HAMILTON